



**THE COMMUNITY CHURCH OF LAMBERTVILLE
First Presbyterian Church**

**Many voices with one faith, one heart.
One family under God.**

From Our Elder ~ Don Pidcock

ANGELS

From the book of Genesis to the last book of Revelation,

Angels play an important part in the Bible as they are used by God for very important roles. Angels are beings created by God to be messengers, warriors, guards, are powerful and can disguise themselves as humans. They also can be frightening but usually when directly involved with people they state “Do not be afraid” or “Fear Not” (Luke 1:30, 2:10).

The first mention of an angel is in the book of Genesis (3:24) when God placed cherubim near the Garden of Eden to prevent Adam and Eve from the tree of life. The last reference to an angel is that of an angel showing the apostle John the New Jerusalem in Revelation 22:9.

The book of Job tells us that the angels were created before God created the physical universe. God may have created angels to minister to both Himself (Rev 5:11-14) and those who will inherit salvation (Hebrews 1:14).

There are many different types of angels and the ones we are very familiar with are Cherubim, which are two-winged as atop the Ark of the Covenant (Ezekiel 1:15-16), and Seraphim, which are six-winged as described in Isaiah 6:2. Some angels appear as normal humans, for the book of Hebrews tells us that we can interact with angels without even knowing. “Do not forget to show hospitality to strangers, for by doing so some people have shown hospitality to angels without knowing it.” There is also references to “The Angel of the Lord,” which is believed to be a reference to Christ himself (Genesis 22:15).

Angels are not to be worshipped. In Revelation 19:10 John states- Then I fell down at the angels feet to worship him, but he said to me, “You must not do that! I am a fellow servant with you and your brothers who hold to the testimony of Jesus. Worship God.”

Although we may never know about all the angels here and now, we can realize that they are real and servants of God. They are also watching over each one of us and have a special place in Gods Kingdom.

“From the Office”

Spring will be here soon, and we are in the season of Lent. Many services in our church and our River Churches are coming up, stay tuned! The weekly bulletin is a good source for the most updated information. The Bell Choir’s practices are on Thursday Nights and we will be playing in church this month. Happy Easter to all!!



Please continue to send in your information for the Newsletters by the 20th of each month.

Thank you,
Sue

Church News:



Communion will be on Sunday March 3rd, and Pastor Peter Gregory will be here. It is also Ordination/Installation of our Church Officers.

Roller Skating is happening on Fridays at 6:00 pm during the month of March. The last Friday for Skating is March 8th.

There is a Soup Sale on Saturday March 2nd from 9:00 am-2:00 pm in the Gym.

Daylight Savings starts on Sunday morning at 2:00 am– March 10th.

The last day for the LBL in the Gym is Saturday March 16th.

Maundy Thursday Service is March 28th, 7:00 pm at Mt. Airy Presbyterian

Good Friday Service is March 29th, 7:00 pm, at Titusville Presbyterian.

Palm Sunday is March 24th.

Easter Sunday is March 31st , and there will be a Breakfast sponsored by the Deacons at 9:00 am.

There will be an Easter Egg Hunt for the Children following the Breakfast.

Please see page 3 for the Easter Flower Order Form!

2024 Easter Memorial Flowers Information

Your name: _____

Phone number: _____

Easter Lily \$9.00 Number: _____

Hyacinths \$8.00 Number: _____

Tulips \$8.00 Number: _____

Daffodils \$8.00 Number: _____

In memory of (please print)

Deadline for ordering Easter flowers: March 24th (Palm Sunday)

Please fill out form and give it to either Gail Armitage or Donna Zambella.

Please make checks payable to: First Presbyterian Church and indicate "flowers" on the memo line. We must receive payment (check or cash) at the time you place your order. Thank you!

The flowers may be taken home after our Easter Sunday worship on March 31st.

Ministry and Outreach:

News From Your Missions Team~

Please see the Bulletin Board in the back of the Sanctuary.

Your Missions Team:

Addie Andino, Gail Armitage, Konni Sandford, Russ Topping and Donna Zambella

From Our Deacons~

As we begin a new year, we ask for Gods guidance for our congregation. We need His love and direction for the path he puts us on; to grow as a congregation and as Individuals.

We continue to reach out to our community in love and understanding of it's needs, and do whatever we can to help.

It has been a busy year for all the Deacons doing their part, all for the glory of God. One of our Deacons is going off this year, with a new Deacon replacing them.

We give thanks for the old and the new, and look forward to what lies ahead.

Please keep us in your prayers, as we keep you in ours.

With our love,

**Gail Armitage, Jen Chernoski, Heidi Danberry,
LaNelle Gallagher, Terry Peck and Heather Pursell.**



Psalm 4:8 “*In peace I will lie down and sleep, for you alone, O Lord, will keep me safe.*”

As the world around us spins further and further out of control, it is even more important that we turn to the Lord and his holy scriptures for comfort, wisdom and security.

Only the Holy Spirit can give us the comfort and peace of mind needed to approach each day.

All living creatures need sleep to maintain a healthy body and soul, even Jesus did. But how many of us lack that important ability to get a sound sleep.

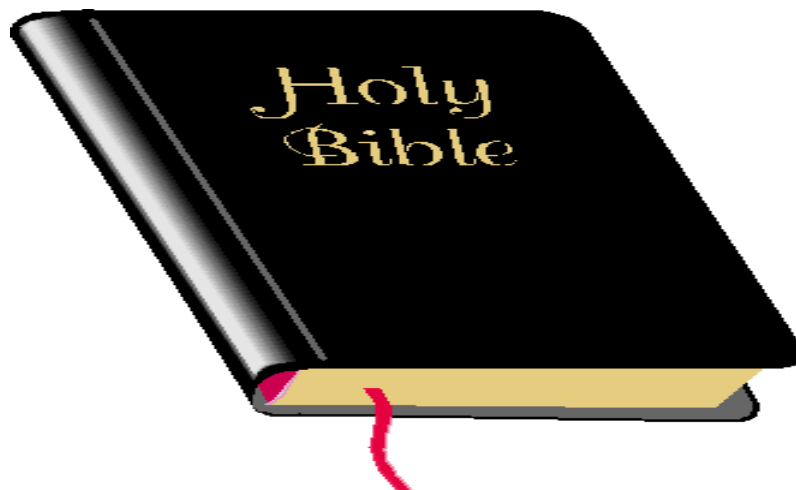
I have been blessed to sleep soundly through the night and wake up refreshed. Is it because I don't have children, a spouse or parents to worry over, probably.

Here are more verses to give us peace of mind and comfort:

- Deuteronomy 31:6
- Isaiah 26:3
- Philippians 4:19
- 2 Thessalonians 3:3

1 Peter 5:7: “Give all your worries and cares to God, for He cares about you.”

Blessings,
Joanne DiBlasi



March Birthdays

1 Don Pidcock

7 Ashton Durborow

8 Stephen McCloughan

12 Zach Griffiths

13 Missy Pursell

14 Declan Durborow

18 Marcus Reading

19 Nick Armano

25 Rich Hopkins

29 Desre Pidcock

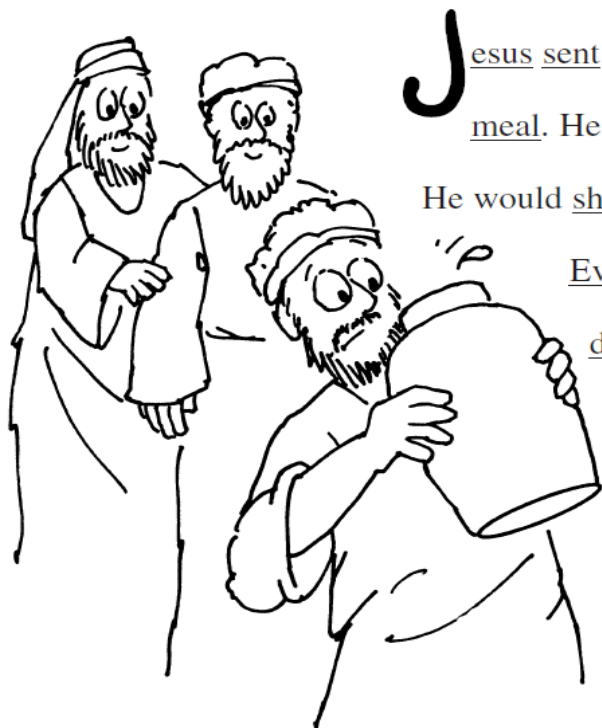


Just for Kids...



THE LAST SUPPER

MARK 14:12-26



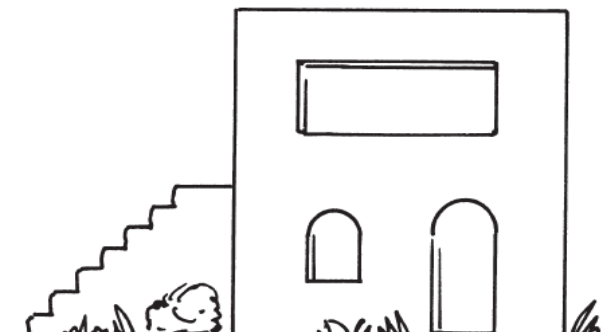
Jesus sent Peter and John to the city to prepare for the Passover meal. He told them to follow a man carrying a jar of water.

He would show them a large room where they could meet.

Everything happened as Jesus said. Jesus and the 12 disciples sat down to dinner. Jesus said that one of them, who “dipped his food in the same bowl” as He, would betray Him. After dinner they sang a hymn and went out to the Mount of Olives.

Find the words that are underlined. They are forward, backward, up and down and diagonal.

J	E	S	U	S	J	T	O	L	D	M
S	M	E	A	L	O	A	B	W	W	A
C	A	N	Y	P	H	D	F	H	A	N
P	E	T	E	R	N	D	O	E	T	E
E	I	M	E	E	T	I	L	R	E	L
C	R	M	J	P	N	A	L	E	R	A
S	A	J	P	A	S	S	O	V	E	R
S	M	O	O	R	R	N	W	O	D	G
H	A	P	P	E	N	E	D	B	T	E
C	G	N	I	H	T	Y	R	E	V	E
D	I	S	C	I	P	L	E	S	R	S
D	I	P	P	E	D	I	N	N	E	R
F	S	A	N	G	Z	M	Q	N	T	T
B	O	W	L	L	Y	O	U	B	R	W
V	A	O	B	H	L	U	D	C	A	O
K	B	O	D	B	E	T	R	A	Y	H
M	O	U	N	T	O	L	I	V	E	S



Name _____

New Testament Lesson #104

March Assisting Schedules:

Elder Schedule

Mar. 3-**Communion**/Karen Thatcher

Mar. 10- Joanne DiBlasi

Mar. 17- Pat Durborow

Mar. 24- Phil McCloughan

Mar. 31- Don Pidcock

Deacon Schedule

Mar. 3- **Communion**/Heidi Danberry

Mar.10- Heidi Danberry

Mar. 17– Terry Peck

Mar. 24– Jen Chernoski

Mar. 31– LaNelle Gallagher

Greeting Schedule

Mar. 3- Connie Fisher

Mar.10- Carol Griffiths

Mar. 17- Sue McCloughan

Mar. 24- Joan Yannarella

Mar. 31- Gail Armitage

**If you unable to serve your scheduled dates,
please find a replacement and contact the church office.**

Schedules are subject to change

Thank you!

Session Minutes
First Presbyterian Church of Lambertville
Westminster House
January 15, 2024 7:00 PM

Class of 2024

Don Pidcock
 Karen Thatcher

Class of 2025

Joanne DiBlasi
 Heather McIntyre

Class of 2026

Pat Durborow
 Phil McCloughan

Rev. Brad Morgan, Moderator

Susan McCloughan, Clerk of Session

Present: Joanne DiBlasi, Pat Durborow, Phil McCloughan, Heather McIntyre,
 Karen Thatcher and Rev. Brad Morgan

Excused: Don Pidcock

Welcome: Reverend Morgan, declaring a quorum, welcomed all to the
 January 15, 2024 Session Business Meeting and opened in prayer.

Devotion – Heather McIntyre

The story of Jesus's birth is infamous. But what do we really know about the birth of Jesus?

1. It probably didn't take place in December. There is no date listed in the bible, this was decided in the 4th century by the Roman Catholic church
2. Jesus was probably born in the bottom portion of a home where animals were sheltered for the night. And no where does it state that animals were present during Jesus's birth.
3. We don't know how many Wise Men visited Jesus. We only know that there were three gifts brought... And that the Wise Men likely traveled 1,000 miles on camels to visit.
4. The shepherds visited Baby Jesus on the night he was born. It is more likely that the Wise Men visited years later.
5. Mary did not pick the name Jesus. It was a common name at the time.
6. Jesus had 5 brothers.
7. Jesus grew up in Nazareth which was regarded unfavorably. He was essentially from the other side of the tracks.
8. Bethlehem was a small insignificant place for the birth of a savior.
9. Jesus was a craftsmen but likely not a carpenter. This has more to do with translation. Homes were generally built of stone not wood. He was likely a laborer or stone mason.
10. Jesus spoke multiple languages.
11. We don't really know what Jesus looked like...
12. The birth of Jesus likely ruined Joseph's reputation. He could have killed Mary for her "adultery" or gone through with quietly divorcing her but he did not.
13. Mary and Joseph had an arranged marriage. Mary was likely 12 to 14 years old.
14. Joseph and Mary were very poor.

Why do any of these details matter? God was very specific. He didn't use an event planner for the details. The humble place of birth, the humble family, the insignificance of his name, even the somewhat scandalous nature of his birth, all of these details show us God's purpose. He sent his son for everyone. His son was not born in a palace, to a noble family. He was born to a poor young girl in a basement room that existed to hold animals.

Although Jesus's birth may not have taken place on December 25th, we accept that date as a date to celebrate the miracle of his birth. Having an appreciation for the unedited, (non-Hollywood) book version of our Savior's birth is important. It's a reminder that our Savior was not here for only the wealthy or the pristine Christians and scholars. Jesus came for the sinners! He came for the everyday people that need him. He came for YOU!

Around the Room - The Elders, Brad and myself went around the room and shared our concerns. Brad closed this section with prayer.

Moderator Time - Rev. Brad Morgan

Pastor Brad had two Announcements: 1. Men's Breakfast on a Saturday morning, or to take a poll at our church to see what morning would work. Stockton and Titusville would also be included. The point of contact would be Brad from Mt. Airy. He's looking to have at least 13-14 men participate. 2. He spoke about the Lenten Services. Stockton is hosting Fat Tuesday, and Titusville on Good Friday. Ash Wednesday and Maundy Thursday to be Mt. Airy or First Pres. of Lambertville. Joanne will reach out to Peter Gregory to see when he could be available to participate in either service. Brad will reach out to Pat Masterson to see if she can be our Accompanist for the service here at First Pres. Karen let Session know that she and Pat Durborow will be singing this coming Sunday at Larison's Corner Church.

Clerks Correspondence and Session Mail Box - Susan McCloughan

Review of Minutes: A motion was called to approve the minutes from November 20, 2023 this was our Joint meeting with the Deacons. All were in favor. The December Business Meeting was cancelled due to inclement weather.

Mail Box/Clerk Correspondence- Steve Emery was here to tune the organ and a chime was replaced on 12/15/23. More maintenance is needed on the organ once the church roof is fixed. The Pulpit Supply list is handed out at the monthly meetings on a regular basis. We've received an email from Larison's Corner for a three-part seminar, which was handed out to Session, and a copy will be put on the church's bulletin board in the downstairs hallway. I will be completing the annual Statistical Report for the Presbytery and will send out to Session for their review. The yearly Necrology Report for 2023 was completed for the Presbytery and emailed to them in January. We have received our Workman's Comp. policy from Franklin Mutual for the year 2024.

Calendar Highlights from January- April 2024

Communion is scheduled for 1/7, 2/4, 3/3 and 4/14 with Peter Gregory.

See the upcoming bulletins for who is scheduled to give the Sermons and our Accompanists. Joanne will ask Pastor Bob Louer from ISI if he would like to come and give the sermon soon. The Ladies' Bible Study will be continuing on Wednesdays. LPS is using our gym for their student's gym classes on Mondays and Fridays during this school year, when we there is inclement weather. The Church will be undecorated for Christmas during the week of Jan. 29th. The Soup Sales are being held on Saturdays during the LBL games on 1/27, 2/3, 2/17 and 3/2. Riverside Symphonia will be using our Sanctuary on 2/9, 10 and 4/12 and 13. Ash Wednesday is February 13th and the First Sunday in Lent is February 18th. The Handbell Choir will resume their practices on Thursday February 22nd at 7:00 pm. The last Friday for Skating is March 8th. Daylight Savings Time starts on Sunday 3/10 at 2:00 am. The last day for LBL is Saturday March 16th. Palm Sunday is March 24th and Easter is March 31st. The Deacons will let us know if there is going to be an Easter Egg Hunt for the Children and the Easter Breakfast. I will reach out to the Deacons.

Shad Fest is the weekend of April 20th. Amy Coss is the point of contact for the Chamber of Commerce, and Sue will reach out to her to get the information. More discussion to follow regarding our worship service on Shad Fest Sunday 4/21.

Worship and Music/Church Life – Joanne DiBlasi/Karen Thatcher

Insurance Review/Morgan Stanley- Karen reiterated that we've received our Workman's Comp., and the policy was talked about earlier. The rates for the policy may come down. More to come. Heather spoke with Tim Stevens about our investments with Morgan Stanley. He will most likely come to speak with Session in the new year.

Young Adult Time- Joanne spoke and let us know that this is continuing, and when the young adults are in church a message will be given.

Care & Share- Joanne let Session know that this past Communion Sunday, Dawn and Anthony Martini are leading this ministry, and there was a "big spread." The Martini's will continue hosting C&S.

Soup Sale and other Fund Raisers- There is normally a big sign out in front of the church for the soup sale, but not this week due to the bad weather that is forecasted, a sign will be put on the fence instead. The soup sale from Jan. 6th-7th, raised \$788.00.

Accompanist/Music Director- George Warner will be playing for us in the upcoming weeks, Karen also texted Lucia Lee to see if she can play for us. For the upcoming Communion/Boy Scout Sunday on 2/4 Kris Gregory will tell a story before the Praise Band sings. Our resume for the Accompanist/Music Director is still active on "Call Finders" the Presbytery Website.

Nominating Committee 2024- This past year of 2023 Nominating Committee are: Carol Griffiths, Danielle Griffiths, and Heather Pursell. The Elder Representative is Karen Thatcher and the Deacon Representative is Gail Armitage. We will need 3 people for the Nominating Committee for 2024. For Elder, both Karen and Don are returning. For Deacon, Jen and LaNelle are returning, and we will need one more Deacon to fill the spot that is being vacated, which is being worked on at this time. Karen talked about having adults who have been attending church on a regular basis and who are not members to see if they would be interested in joining. Sue will put something in the bulletin on who would like to join our church. Pastor Brad would be willing to do a new member class. More information to follow.

Pastoral Search- Phil asked to see a job description of when Peter was here. Sue will send that out to Session as soon as possible. It was decided to empower Session to start the Pastoral Search, then send an email to Brad and Mike from the COM, a compiled job description.

Building and Grounds – Pat Durborow/Phil McCloughan/Heather McIntyre/Don Pidcock

The **new technology** for the Livestream has been bought and a date has been picked in later January for the equipment to be installed.

Martinez Landscaping- Will be maintaining the church property for snow removal.

Church Roof- This is ongoing, and Phil suggested that the companies that we should contact are: Eisman, Rainmaker and Kanga. It was also discussed that we should use the company that suggested using scaffolding on the side of the church. At the next Business meeting it was suggested that it's decided which company will be fixing the roof. Fixing the gutters will be done at this time. It was also mentioned that we should see about a grant to fix the roof. Session would be contacting someone soon regarding this.

Skating and Friday Night Hang – Pat talks about skating and there are no issues at this time. Friday Night Hang is not being held this season, but it's suggested by Session to talk FNH up during skating with the 6th graders, and for them to stay after for FNH in the future.

Church Organ- Was discussed earlier.

Hallway in Church/Bathrooms- Joanne talked about possibly stenciling the walls in the hallway, but they would need to be washed or painted first. She will get opinions on where to put the stencils. The church bathrooms need to be vented; this will be talked more about at the next meeting. The front doors of the church were not discussed at this time.

Heating in the Church- Garden State is the company that has been maintaining the heaters, and this is still open. Phil will call them to see if they have finished fixing the heaters in the church basement.

SDG Alarm- It continues to go on and off. It needs to be looked at again by SDG. It keeps saying the Boiler Room is hot, but it isn't. Pat checks this out on a regular basis. Heather will look about to see what we did the last time the alarm kept going off. The Wi-Fi may have something to do with the alarm going on and off. Brad suggested maybe the Wi-Fi needs an extender, Heather will check into this.

Budget and Finance – Heather McIntyre

Our Year-to-Date Summary was given out and was discussed, from 1/1-1/14/24, and we are under in our Plate by \$499.76 **Tim Stevens from Morgan Stanley** will most likely be coming to speak to Session regarding our investments at the February Meeting. Heather will ask Tim to come at 6:30 pm.

Lowell Hunter Estate- No updates at this time.

Boy Scouts- No updates at this time.

Usage of the Gym for LPS during the 2023-2024 School year- No money for using the gym as of yet. Heather will reach out about receiving funds.

Westminster House Heating System- Elizabethtown Gas sent an email to Heather, she will follow up with them regarding the heating system.

Per Capita 2024- This was voted on in 2023, and it was determined that the church would use the Per Capita to fund our missions. No funds have been sent to the Presbytery at this time. It was discussed that Heather would send a letter to our Presbytery explaining this if necessary. Brad talked about how people would give if we have a Per Capita giving Sunday, and this would go to the Presbytery. This may be worth a try. More to follow.

Sunday School/Junior Deacons – Joanne DiBlasi

Sunday School- Not discussed this evening.

Junior Deacons- When we have the young people in church, they have been participating in the service.

Missions – Joanne DiBlasi

The next meeting for the Missions Team is in March.

Notations

Holy Communion- Was on Sunday December 10, 2023 and January 7, 2024, and performed by Pastor Peter Gregory.

Continuing of Education- Elders are encouraged to continue in and share the word of God through reading His Word, devotions, prayer and to be involved in education.

Elders-Are to continue Pastoral Care as needed.

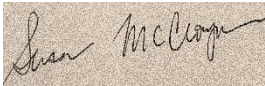
Prayer Meetings- Will be held on the first Monday of each month. Members will be sharing His Word through readings, thoughts, scripture and prayer, and will be in person. For those who cannot make in person, a livestream will be available. If for personal reasons keep session members from attending, the session resolved to pray wherever they are during the 7 o'clock hour.

Session Devotion Rotation- The devotion for the February meeting is Don Pidcock, and March is Karen Thatcher.

Adjournment

The meeting adjourned at 9:15 pm and was closed in Session prayer.

Respectfully Submitted,



Susan McCloughan
Clerk of Session